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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHOD EXEMPTION 382B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2006

AIR

MAE-112

18 April 1961

Chief of Base, Saigon
Attention:
Chief, FOM

Operational
Contact with Heinrich GIEREN

Reference: WACA 815, 808, 870, NAV-J-4801

1. We can add little at this stage to your appraisal of the operational possibilities of Heinrich GIEREN and/or his former assistant, Julius BRUNER. We are, of course, considerably interested in any leads to a potential penetration of the SAETZER complex.

2. There is no indication in reference correspondence that local investigations have been made on GIEREN and BRUNER. Vietnam and Saigon. Discreet investigations of their current activities, as well as C-3 and C-10 file checks, should be completed before contact with GIEREN is intensified, particularly with reference to the possibility that either he or BRUNER has already been approached by some other intelligence service since his release from prison.

3. Headquarters' traces on GIEREN and BRUNER are contained in LEX-704, a copy of which is attached for your information. NAV 187, which consists of biographical data on members of the anti-Communist Brigade of the Vietnam Police, gives no additional information and for that reason is not being forwarded.

4. NAV 187 identifies the HASLINGER mentioned in LEX-704 as Anton HASLINGER, born 1908, member of the anti-Communist Brigade who later served in the Gestapo in Vienna and was interned at Camp Harvey Orr. It is interesting to note that, according to a Grasper 9 report dated 7 November 1960 (NAV 2216), a certain Anton HASLINGER is in Vienna and in contact with SAETZER.

SECRET

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6. Helmut BIERER's statements concerning the ELASTIC case are substantially corroborated by a report in our files, dated 23 September 1947, which contains a summary of information passed to the British by the FBI regarding BIERER's activities. The information is taken from a report dated 15 October 1946, received from Vienna, concerning arrests by the Austrian Police of persons believed to be engaged in Soviet intelligence activities.

6. We have no traces on the other persons mentioned by BIERER as members of ELASTIC's net. We will note in LSI-704 that SAUBER also mentioned this case and named two alleged associates of BIERER's.

7. Two reports in our files, dated 1944 and 1945 respectively, confirm BIERER's statement that one SHILL was a member of the Gestapo in Illegature.

8. Reference LAM 809: It seems incredible that anyone who was connected with the Gestapo should have no knowledge of Helmut BIERER, chief of Amt IV of the RSHA in Berlin. BIERER's whereabouts since the war has been a mystery. There have, however, been previous reports that he is working for the Soviets in eastern Germany. BIERER's confessed ignorance of BIERER's existence would appear to bear further examination.

8 CC: Vienna w/attachment

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